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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY China

DATE: 25X1A

SUBJECT Economic Information: Decrease in Summer
Rice Harvest, Kwangtung

INFO.

25X1A6a

DIST. 30 October 1946

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SUPPLEMENT

ORIGIN
25X1X6SOURCE The following information was taken from Chien Kuo Jih Pao, Canton daily, dated 22 July 1946 (paragraph 1), and other Canton dailies.

1. The Kwangtung Provincial Government will start a five-year reconstruction plan next year. During the first year it plans to cut down the present rice shortage by 40%. The following table shows the total annual production of 121,845,804 market piculs. This is 19,559,271 picule short of the normal amount consumed annually in the province.

	Cultivated land in mows	Annual production in market piculs
1st Administrative District	9,473,308	37,490,078
2nd	4,584,585	14,101,774
3rd	4,463,487	14,637,577
4th	4,409,982	1,070,411
5th	2,799,457	17,072,748
6th	2,996,255	8,701,034
7th	5,483,752	16,502,765
8th	2,683,484	11,358,091
9th	3,094,568	911,326
TOTALS	39,990,878	121,845,804

2. East River Districts (Northwest of Canton)

Because of the drought in the early spring and the continuous rains in the latter part of July, rice crops in the East River districts are poorer than expected. On 15 July the flood waters rose to the unprecedented height of more than ten feet in this area. Reported flooded were Moyuan (114-48, 23-42), Lungchuan (115-16, 24-02), Laolung (115-20, 24-03), Muiyang (114-26, 23-05), and Pofo (114-17, 23-09). Reporters who interviewed the Public Affairs Department and the Tax and Food Control Offices on 21 July were given the following statement:

a. Relief work has been carried out by CMRRA.

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- b. The provincial government is negotiating for the importation of rice from Formosa and Hunan Province, where the harvest is good.
- c. There have been many shipments of rice from Fukien to Kwangtung; distribution to the East River district has already been made.
- d. Tax for cultivated land will be levied in the usual manner, but a 50% discount will be permitted to four districts of Taishan (112-48, 22-15) and Shunte (113-37, 22-50).

3. Swatow Area

Because of drought in the early spring and the recent destruction by locusts, the rice harvest has been drastically reduced in the Chao yang shien district (116-34, 23-17). Consequently, food prices are soaring. Rice prices in Swatow were the highest reported in Kwangtung in July. The harvest in Chaoan Hsien (116-37, 23-42) is estimated at 40% of last year's crop.

4. Area South of Canton

The typhoon inflicted severe damage on the paddy fields in Hsinhui (113-43, 22-31). Because the summer harvest in the area was late, the typhoon hit just as the grain was ripening. It is estimated that the spring drought and the recent floods have cut down the harvest to between thirty and forty percent of its normal size, or about two and one-half piculs of grain per mow.

5. Area South of Nuchow

Tucheng (111-31, 23-13), Msinhsing (112-13, 22-48), Teching (111-48, 23-08), and other places along the West River were under water for a week preceding 17 August.

6. Kwangchouwan Area

Heavy rains from 11-15 July in Suichi (110-15, 21-23) and the Kwangchouwan area have caused the farmers to predict a greatly reduced harvest.

7. Yangshan Area (Northwest Kwangtung)

After the torrential rains of 9 and 10 July, the river at Yangshan (112-35, 24-22) suddenly rose from 20 to 30 feet, inundating houses, paddies, and lands. Approximately 460 animals were drowned, 809 houses collapsed, 25 bridges were destroyed, and 2,000 mows of paddy fields were ruined. The total loss of farm products is estimated at \$479,486,000 CNC.

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